

Applicants:

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PATENT

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AMENDMENTS

Please enter the following rewritten claims:

- Part C1*
1. (Amended) A method for producing L-aspartic acid comprising:
treating an ammonium fumarate solution with aspartase to generate an ammonium L-aspartate solution;
heating to 50 to 130°C said ammonium L-aspartate solution;
adding fumaric acid to said heated ammonium L-aspartate solution in a molar ratio of 0.4 to 0.8 to the total amount of fumarate and the L-aspartate contained therein to form a resultant mixture;
applying a shearing force to the resultant mixture to obtain a homogenous solution; and
crystallizing L-aspartic acid from said homogenous solution to obtain a suspension containing L-aspartic acid crystals.
- B1*
2. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the temperature of said suspension containing L-aspartic acid crystals is in the range from 25 to 100°C when the deposited L-aspartic acid is separated therefrom.
- sub D2*
B2
Part C2
4. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein fumaric acid crystals and said ammonium L-aspartate solution are mixed continuously.
5. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said resultant mixture is cooled at a rate of 0.1 - 5°C/min from the temperature at which fumaric acid is added thereto to the temperature at which crystallized L-aspartic acid is separated therefrom, to thereby deposit L-aspartic acid.
- sub C3*
B3
10. (Amended) A method for producing L-aspartic acid comprising:
treating an ammonium fumarate solution with aspartase to generate an ammonium L-aspartate solution;
adding fumaric acid to said ammonium L-aspartate solution; and
cooling the resultant mixture at a rate of 0.1-5°C/min to crystallize L-aspartic acid.
- sub D4*
11. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said resultant mixture from which L-aspartic acid is crystallized is a homogeneous solution.